GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3464
ANSWERED ON:14.08.2000
GANGA ACTION PLAN
SHEESH RAM SINGH RAVI

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether major amount remained unspent due to slow progress in the execution under MH-3435 Ganga Action Plan Phase-I;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ; and

(c) the measures taken by the Government to implement the schemes under Ganga Action Plan Phase-I to make Ganga clean?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT & FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI)

(a)&(b) The Ganga Action PlanPhase-I which was approved in June, 1985 at a cost of Rs. 462.04 crore has beendeclared closed since 31-3-2000 at a completion cost of Rs. 451.70 crore which is quite a substantial amount.

(c) To implement the scheme of Ganga Action Plan Phase-I, 261 schemes of pollution abatement concerning municipal activities were taken up. These include 88 schemes of interception and diversion to capture the raw sewage flowing into the river through open drains, 35 schemes of sewage treatment plants for treatment of 873 million litres of captured sewage per day, 43 schemes of low cost toilets to prevent open defecation on river banks, 28 schemes of electric crematorium,35 river front development schemes for improvement of bathing ghats and 32 other miscellaneous schemes. Of these, 258 schemes have been completed. Of the remaining 3 schemes of sewage treatment plants, two are Bihar and one in West Bengal. The schemes are likely to be completed by December ,2000. A sewage treatment capacity of 835 million litres per day has been created under the programme so far with the setting up of 32 sewage treatment plants.